

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8452

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, US

SUBJECT: FURTHER ORESS COMMENT ON HARTMAN TRIP TO ANKARA AND ATHENS

REF: ATHENS 3029

ANKARA PASS HARTMAN / EAGLETON

1. WEEKEND PRESS REPORTS CONINUED TO SPECULATE ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN'S TRIP TO ANKARA AND ATHENS WITH FOCUS ON SUGGESTION THAT WASHINGTON AND NATO ARE URGING RECONCILIATION BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY. RECONCILIATION THEME WAS ELABORATED BY LEFTIST NEWSPAPERS WHICH ADDED THAT DEPARTMENT IS IN NEED OF SIGNS OF MOVEMENT IN GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS TO CREATE FAVORABLE CLIMATE IN CONGRESS. ON APRIL 21 VRADYNI (PRO-GOG) CORRECTED AN EARLIER STORY, THAT "HARTMAN IS BRINGING PROPOSALS FOR SOLUTION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM," WITH ARTICLE CAPTIONED "HARTMAN TAKING SOUNDINGS WITH TURKS."

2. MOST SPECULATIVE STORY APPEARED IN TO VIMA (LIBERAL) ON APRIL 20 HEADLINED "CLARIFICATIONS ABOUT 'OPENING'
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OF GREECE TOWARD EUROPE WILL BE REQUESTED BY HARTMAN --HE

IS GOING TO DISCUSS ALSO MATTER OF 'CONTROL' OVER AEGEAN".
AFTER STATING THAT HARTMAN VISIT CONSTITUTED COORDINATED
EFFORT OF USG TO PROMOTE ITS INFLUENCE IN BOTH TURKEY AND
GREECE, ARTICLE IDENTIFIED ISSUES ON WHICH HARTMAN WOULD
SEEK "CLARIFICATIONS" HERE AS BEING: GOG VIEWS ON US
BASES IN GREECE; GREEK "INTEREST" IN U.S. ECONOMIC AND
MILITARY ASSISTANCE; GREEK ATTITUDE ON ITS "OPENING"
TOWARD NATIONS OF EUROPE AD PRIMARILY FRANCE; GOG'S
VIEWS ON NATO AND SPECIFIC VIEWS OF GREEK PREMIER WITH
REGARD TO "CONTROVERSIAL" NATO SUMMIT; GREEK POSITION ON
RELATIONS WITH TURKEY AND EVENTUAL "MARGINS OF MANEUVER"
WITH RESPECT TO "CONTROL OVER THE AEGEAN." SAME ARTICLE
CONCLUDED THAT HARTMAN MAY TRAVEL ONWARD TO VIENNA TO
BE PRESENT AT INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AS "OBSERVER." IN THIS
CONNECTION IT ATTRIBUTED TO UN SECRETARIAT VIEW THAT
PRESENCE OF THIRD PARTIES AT VIENNA "COULD CAUSE
DIFFICULTIES AND COMPLICATIONS WITHOUT ANY REASON."

3. WE ANTICIPATE THAT PRESS INTEREST IN HARTMAN VISIT
HERE WILL INTENSIFY AND HE SHOULD EXPECT TO BE QUESTIONED
BY JOURNALISTS ON ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT. WE ARE
FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE CONTINED IN STATE 39550 IN
RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS WE ARE ALREADY GETTING.
KUBISCH

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